

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
38/8C

USGS Quad
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number
1083



Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village) East Lexington

Address 84 Maple Street

Historic Name Robert and Claire Ryder House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1913

Source Lexington Valuation Lists

Style/Form Craftsman

Architect/Builder Willard Brown?

Exterior Material:

Foundation rubble

Wall/Trim wood shingles, rubble

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

garage

Major Alterations (with dates) 1990- rear addition;
date? - replacement of second story facade windows

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 41,848 SF

Setting mixed residential neighborhood on busy road

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month/year) June 2000

BUILDING FORM (84 Maple Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of the building in terms of other buildings within the community.

A variation on the Craftsman style, 84 Maple Street is a two-story dwelling sheathed in wood shingles above a fieldstone first floor. The building is capped by a hip roof which exhibits eaves which are slightly flared and adorned by exposed rafters. An offcenter hip dormer rises from the front roof slope. Largely, obscured by rhododendrons, the first floor of the facade is fronted by a single-story, hip-roofed porch which is supported by stone posts and also exhibits exposed rafters. The open porch extends beyond the east end of the house. Underneath the porch, the glass-and-panel door is decorated by a dentil molding and is flanked by two wide, full length sidelights. Also sheltered by the porch is a three-sided bay window with 2/1 sash. Windows on the ends of the second floor of the facade contain modern tripartite replacements which probably replace multilight casements which are still visible on the west end of the house. At the center of the second floor facade there are two 2/1 windows of different sizes.

Behind the main house block is a two-story ell which is also hip-roofed. At the rear is a modern, single-story addition sheathed in clapboards and capped by a hip roof. It was constructed in 1990 and is fronted by a large deck.

At the street there is a stone pillar about six feet tall and capped by concrete. A line of trees extends along the road. The house is set back from the road with an elongated circular driveway located to the west of the house. At the end of the driveway is a single-story, wood-shingled garage capped by a flat roof and currently in poor condition. The property originally included 1.65 acres but has been reduced to 41,848 square feet.

(See 20 Meriam St., MHC# 382)

Stylistically, this house appears to have some similarities with other residences designed by local architect Willard Brown, although a definite connection has not been established.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This house was constructed for Robert and Claire Ryder in 1913. The first assessment for the property (known as 108 Maple Street until the 1930s) indicates that the property then included a house valued at \$8000, a hen house and 25 acres of land. Robert Ryder was a lawyer in Boston. The Ryders continued to own the property until about 1940. It was owned by Albert and Gertrude Kaufmann from 1941 until about 1970. The present owners purchased the property in 1985.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lexington Assessors Records.
Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Valuation Lists, various dates.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attached a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*